State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game Nomination for Waters Important to Anadromous Fish

Region ARCTIC 🖢	USGS C	Quad BEEC	HY POI	WT B-B	
Anadromous Water Catalog Number of Waterway	30-00-1	0415			
Name of Waterway PUTULIGAYUK RI	VGR Dus	GS Name		Local Nam	
Addition Deletion Correct	ion Backup Info				
	For Office Use		Z/12-5		
lomination # 97 044	Nett	t	1+ 12-5	1-96	
evision Year:	Regional Sup	ervisor GL	LW Da	ate	
evision to: Atlas X Catalog	- EOW	sin_	5/12	0/97	
Both X	AWC Project E	Biologist		ate	
evision Code: E-7 A-1	2. Dry	sue	12/2	12/2/97	
	Drafted		Da	ate	
OBSERV	ATION INFORMATION				
Species Date(s) Observed	Spawning R	earing	Present	Anadromous	
3ROAD WHITEFISH 6-27-96		X		Ø	
OLLY VARDERS 6-28-96		X		×	
comments: $PCASE$ $CHMGE$ AC	arriers; etc.	oocey			
			Supplied to	· 42.	
			AL	ASKA DEPT. OF	
			DE	P 6	
Name of Observer (please print) Care: 12-4-96 Signature:	ATRAGARS	min 6	<u>HA</u> BITAT	REGION II AND RESTORA	
Address: /30	ATR BANKS	ALASI	× A 99	709	
This certifies that in my best professional judgment a should be included in or deleted from the Catalog of Anadromous Fishes per AS 16.05.870.					
Signature of Area Biologist: Carl N	mming			Revision 11/96	

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

HABITAT & RESTORATION DIVISION

1300 COLLEGE ROAD FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701-1599 PHONE: (907) 459-7289 FAX: (907) 456-3091

July 15, 1996

Dr. Christopher J. Herlugson, Supervisor Environmental Assessment Section Environmental and Regulatory Affairs, Alaska BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc. P.O. Box 196612 Anchorage, AK 99519-6612

Dear Dr. Herlugson:

RE: Gravel Pit Study

Enclosed is a trip report prepared by Mr. Hemming summarizing fisheries investigations conducted in the Prudhoe Bay and Kuparuk River units in late June, 1996. Catch rates for Arctic grayling in Mine Sites B and D in the Kuparuk River unit were higher than in previous sample years. In the Putuligayuk and Little Putuligayuk River systems, Dolly Varden and broad whitefish were collected in reaches previously not included in the anadromous catalog. A large number of adult broad whitefish were found in Lake Judith. Similar letters have been sent to Mr. Bob Elder (ARCO Alaska Inc.) and Mr. Rod Hoffman (ARCO Alaska Inc.). If there are any questions please contact either me or Mr. Hemming at 459-7289.

Sincerely

Alvin G. Ott, Regional Supervisor Habitat and Restoration Division Department of Fish and Game

Enclosure

CC:

w/enclosure Craig George, NSB, Barrow Bill Wilson, LGL, Anchorage Fred Andersen, ADF&G, Fairbanks

Carl Hemming, ADF&G, Fairbanks

AGO/ago

North Slope Gravel Mine Site Project Trip Report

June 24-28, 1996

General Comment

Fisheries investigations were conducted in the Prudhoe Bay and Kuparuk River units of the North Slope oilfields June 24-28, 1996. This trip was the first of three planned for the 1996 field season. We collected data to evaluate the experimental introduction of Arctic grayling (*Thymallus arcticus*) at Kuparuk Mine Site B and D and to characterize summer fish use of the Putuligayuk (Put) River system including the Little Put River and Lake Judith.

We used fyke traps to live capture fish at two Kuparuk area mine sites and in the Put River system. At Kuparuk Mine Site B nets were fished in East Creek above the mine site, at the inlet, and in the mine site. At Mine site D we set nets at the access ramp and near the Charlie Creek inlet at the northwest corner of the site. Three nets were fished in the Put River system; at the Put 27 Mine Site access ramp, in the Put River just east of B Pad upstream of the Spine Road, and in the Little Put River at the inlet to Lake Judith located downstream from Drill Site 14. All fish except ninespine stickleback (*Pugitius pugitius*) were measured (fork length) and released. Ninespine stickleback were identified, enumerated and released. Grayling captured in the Kuparuk mine sites were marked with a dorsal fin hole punch. A recapture event will occur later in the summer to estimate the population of grayling at each site. Large broad whitefish (*Coregonus nasus*) in the Put River system were marked with internal anchor tags.

Weather conditions were cool and overcast with moderate winds. Water temperatures ranged from 4 to 9 ° C while air temperatures were slightly above the freezing point.

Personnel and Logistics

BPX provided field logistical support including, air transportation from Fairbanks to Deadhorse and return, room and board at Annex # 1, and a motor pool truck. Bill Morris assisted with the field work.

Significant Findings

Put River System

Five species of fish were captured in Put 27; Arctic flounder (*Liopsetta glacialis*), fourhorn sculpin (*Myoxocephalus quadricornis*), ninespine stickleback, Dolly Varden

Table 1. Fish captured in the Put River system, 1996.

Date	Location	Water Temp ° C	Species Captured	Number	Fork Length (mm)	Tag#	
6/26/96 Put 27	Put 27	9.0	Dolly Varden	2	144		
					166		
			Arctic flounder	5	47		
					57		
					60		
					75		
			10 Ur Ur		90		
			fourhorn sculpin	3	62		
					90		
					116		
			ninespine stickleback	26	n/a		
	Lake Judith	5.0	broad whitefish	8	365	white 906	
					370	white 904	
					385	white 903	
					408	white 908	
					420	white 905	
					460	white 907	
					471	white 901	
					490	white 902	
6/27/96 Put River	Put River	7.0	broad whitefish	2	372	white 910	
					434	white 909	
	Put 27	8.0	broad whitefish	1	473	white 911	
		fourhorn sculpin	1	132			
			ninespine stickleback	12	n/a		
Lake Judith	5.0	broad whitefish	16	355	white 917		
					359	white 919	
					360	white 924	
					367	white 918	
					369	white 926	
				370	white 925		
				380	white 916		
				395	white 913		
				404	white 921		
				405	white 915		
				410	white 920		
				426	white 923		
				430	white 914		
				455	white 922		
					460	white 912	
			Dolly Varden	1	485 153	white 927	

